GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:327
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2001
DIRECT FUNDING TO GRAM PANCHAYATS
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to release funds to the Gram Panchayats directly;

(b) if so, whether some States are not ready to implement this scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the extent to which the direct funding to the Gram Panchayats is likely to stop misuse of funds?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.327 due for Reply on 14/08/2001

(a): While there is no specific proposal, at present, to provide funds directly to Gram Panchayats, under the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana(JGSY) of the Ministry of Rural Development the funds are released to Gram Panchayats through District Rural Development Agency(DRDA)/District Panchayat. Funds under the Employment Assurance Scheme(EAS) are released to District Panchayats/DRDAs. This Scheme is operational at the District/Intermediate Panchayat level.

(b)&(c): Do not arise.

(d): Mis-utilisation of funds will be effectively checked when the Gram Sabhaexercises its powers of Social Audit and keeps a close watch on the implementation of the Schemes.